

Remarks

Claims 1, 2 and 4-10 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 8 being the independent claims. Claim 3 has been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Respectfully submitted,



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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In the Claims:

1. (Amended) A device for creating a spread-out stream of tobacco fibers, comprising:
a concave-curved guide track along which the fiber stream of tobacco fibers are conveyed, the guide track having a generatrix based on a uniform curve, a portion of the concave-curved guide track being formed by a convex sliding surface; and
at least one air [jet] nozzle having an air flow opening interrupting the guide track so that air exiting the [air flow jet] nozzle acts in a conveyance direction of the fiber stream for spreading out the tobacco fibers, wherein the nozzle has a downstream wall, in relation to the conveyance direction of the fiber stream, which makes a transition into the concave sliding surface of the guide track in a steady convex curvature.
2. (Amended) The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the guide track has a width [and a convex sliding surface], and the at least one [air jet] nozzle terminates in the sliding surface and extends continuously over the width of the guide track.
4. (Amended) The device in accordance with claim 2, wherein the at least one [air jet] nozzle comprises a plurality of [air jets] nozzles following each other in the conveying direction of the fiber stream and that interrupt the sliding surface.
5. (Amended) The device in accordance with claim 4, further comprising a common pressure chamber connected with the plurality of nozzles [air jets].

6. (Amended) The device in accordance with claim 4, wherein the guide track comprises a plurality of individual guide track segments having respectively adjoining border surfaces that form nozzle walls of the nozzles [air jets].

7. (Amended) The device in accordance with claim 6, wherein the guide track segments comprise extruded sections, whose wall sections, which border the sliding surface of the guide track, form an upstream nozzle wall and [a] the downstream nozzle wall, in relation to the conveying direction, at two successive nozzles [air jets].